

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03155 021458Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-11 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07

DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /104 W

----- 089052

R 021235Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4373

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED FFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3155

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS COMMENT ON INDO-US
AND OTHER FOREIGN RELATIONS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN FEBRUARY 28 BRIEFED PARLIA-
MENT'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
ACCORDING TO INDIAN PRESS REPORTS FEBRUARY 29, HE
MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03155 021458Z

(A) INDO-US RELATIONS -- RECENT MEETINGS OF THE INDO-US

JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL AND THE S AND T SUBCOMMISSION WERE ENCOURAGING. THE US PARTICIPANTS SEEMED TO BE "REASONABLY SATISFIED" WITH THE OUTCOME. CHAVAN NOTED HIS AND MRS GANDHI'S ATTENDANCE AT THE EMBASSY'S BI-CENTENNIAL FUNCTION FEBRUARY 27.

(B) THE SUBCONTINENT -- CHAVAN REGRETTED THAT THE ANTI-INDIAN TREND IN BANGLADESH WAS PERSISTING. BANGLADESH MEDIA WERE CONTINUING THEIR HOSTILE PROPAGANDA. RELATIONS WOULD BE REVIEWED "NEXT WEEK" WITH INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER SEN, NOW IN DELHI. INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH SRI LANKA HAD BEEN STRENGTHENED BY THE RECENT VISIT OF SRI LANKAN MINISTER ILLANGERATNE. PRESS REPORTS OF THE BRIEFING DO NOT INDICATE ANY COMMENTS BY CHAVAN ON INDO-PAK RELATIONS.

(C) FORTHCOMING NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT -- IT IS HOPED A MEETING OF THE ASIAN MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WOULD BE HELD SOON IN PREPARATION FOR COLOMBO. IT WOULD BE THE FIRST SUCH CONFERENCE OF ASIAN NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS. INDIA IS TAKING A PRINCIPLED STAND AGAINST ATTEMPTS AT "DILUTING" THE PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT.

(D) COMMUNIST COUNTRIES -- INDIA WELCOMES THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY SOVIET LEADER BREZHNEV AT THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS TO "OUR SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAM". CHAVAN DOES NOT SEE AN EARLY PROSPECT FOR AN IMPROVEMENT OF SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS SINCE INDIA HAS NOT RECEIVED A MEANINGFUL RESPONSE TO ITS OWN ATTEMPTS AT NORMALIZATION.

(E) SOUTHEAST ASIA -- THIS REGION IS IMPORTANT TO INDIA FOR GEOPOLITICAL REASONS AND THEREFORE OUR RELATIONS WILL BE DEVELOPED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF "MULTIFACETED BILATERALISM". THE PRESS REPORTS SOME MEMBERS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED CONCERN TO CHAVAN THAT US POLICY IN THE REGION HAS NOT CHANGED AND CHINA IN FACT FAVORS A CONTINUED US PRESENCE.

2. DEPUTY FONMIN R.P. DAS WAS QUOTED IN THE PRESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 03155 021458Z

MARCH 1 AS SAYING IN CALCUTTA THE DAY BEFORE THAT THE THREE INDO-US SUBCOMMISSIONS HAD MADE SOME PROGRESS AND WERE SCHEDULED TO MEET AGAIN SHORTLY TO "TAKE STOCK OF THE PROGRESS AND CONSIDER FURTHER STEPS FOR COOPERATION IN NEW AREAS...." THE JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL HAS "GIVEN HOPES FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH THE US IN VARIOUS FIELDS OF BUSINESS". DAS IS ALSO REPORTED SAYING THAT INDIA

WOULD LIKE THE US TO COOPERATE IN BUILDING HIGHLY
SOPHISTICATED INDUSTRY NOT SO FAR DEVELOPED HERE.

3. MEA JOINT SECRETARY (EAST ASIA) N.N. JHA TOLD
EMBOFFS MARCH 2 THAT THE GOI INTERPRETED THE DECLINE
IN TENG HSIAO-P'ING'S POSITION IN CHINA AS A BLOW TO
THE SOVIETS SINCE THE INDIANS HAD EXPECTED TENG TO
GRADUALLY MOVE TOWARD AN EASING OF SINO-SOVIET RELA-
TIONS OVER A PERIOD OF TIME. IN THIS PROCESS, BUT
AFTER FIRST MOVING WITH THE SOVIETS, THE CHINESE
WOULD PROBABLY ALSO HAVE EASED THEIR RELATIONS WITH
THE INDIANS. THE ASCENDENCY OF HUA KUO-FENG AND THE
RENEWED ATTACKS ON THE "CAPITALIST ROADERS" IN CHINA
WOULD PROBABLY MEAN A CONTINUATION OF THE FREEZE IN
SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS AS WELL AS SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS.
SAXBE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE03155
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760079-0488
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603104/aaaadnsw.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS COMMENT ON INDO-US AND OTHER FOREIGN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, IN, US, XX, (CHAVAN, Y B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006